

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Ultrasonic, sonic or vibratory energy, delivered non-invasively, minimally
invasively or invasively (e.g. surgically), is utilized to provide direct cleaning ac-
5 tion at or to the location of the implanted device such as a prosthetic heart valve
with undesirable deposits of at least some amount thereon or therein. Such ultra-
sound energy may be aided by the use of a drug in association or cooperation
with the acoustic irradiation. The "cleaning" acoustic energy may optionally be de-
livered under the guidance of an imaging modality and may be delivered in a
10 timed or gated manner such that the valve occluders or leaflets are in a preferred
position (assuming they are functioning) during exposures.